GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:208
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2002
PLANTATION DRIVE FOR DWINDLING FOREST COVER
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to launch a drive for plantation in order to check the dwindling percentage of the forest cover in the country:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the efforts being made to assign the plantation job to panchayats; and

(d) the extent to which the Government have succeeded in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a), (b), (c) & (d) A National Afforestation Programme has already been launched in the country in the Tenth Plan and therefore the Government does not propose to launch a separate drive. This Programme is being implemented through the decentralised set-up of Forest Development Agencies (FDAs) which is a confederation of Joint Forest Management Committees, wherein the Panchayats are also represented.